GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:424
ANSWERED ON:21.10.2008
MONITORING OF DTH SERVICE
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh;Senthil Dr. Raman

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the monthly subscription of Direct-to-Home (DTH) service for free to air and paid channels at present;

(b) whether the Government proposes to formulate any rules to monitor/control the telecasting of free to air and paid channels and guidelines to make available DTH service at reasonable rate to the subscribers;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to increase the existing number of channels available on DTH service of Doordarshan (DD); and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the number of channels provided by DTH service of DD are likely to increase?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (ADDITIONAL CHARGE) (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a): The multiple subscription packages of DTH service provided by private DTH operators ranges from Rs. 60/- to Rs. 424/- per month for free to air and paid channels opted by subscribers. However, there is no monthly subscription for viewing DD Direct plus DTH service of Doordarshan.

(b): Carriage and pricing issues with respect to DTH and Broadcasting Sector as a whole are regulated by TRAI formulation of rules is not contemplated at the level of Government.

(c): Does not arise.

(d) & (e): Yes Sir. Doordarshan proposes to increase the number of channels from 50 to 59 on its DD Direct Plus DTH service from November 2008.